Requesting a variety of back-to-school information for their annual section coming up, including comments from Superintendent Craft.

**District Response:**
Killeen Independent School District officials expect the 2018-2019 school year will bring continued growth to the district. This summer, the district projected a growth rate of 1.29 percent, which would bring the district population up to 44,891 students for the coming school year, as well as 6,700 staff members and 650 to 700 potential substitutes the district plans to hire.

The district also recently promoted three new principals of KISD middle schools: Latisha Williams as principal of Patterson Middle, Rhea Lynn Brooks Bell as principal of Manor Middle and Alan Gawryszewski as principal of Rancier Middle.

There will be no new campuses opening this school year but district officials said the year will be filled with strategic planning, particularly as a result of the $426 million bond approved by voters in May.

Superintendent John Craft said the district will be incorporating the academic programming associated with the upcoming projects, as well as expanding the STEM programming due to high enrollment demand, as well as programs at the career center to include a robotic arm program.

“We will be focusing a lot more attention on these particular areas simply because we’re not going to be going through a bond election,” Craft said. “We’re really going to be working hard to best serve our students.”

Craft said the district will be expanding the STEM programming due to high enrollment demand, as well as programs at the career center to include a robotic arm program.

“It will provide not only phenomenal opportunities for learning experience for students but more industrial level certifications,” Craft said.
The district will also be expanding the Early College High School to include a senior year, which will result in the first graduating class of 2019.

This will follow the Texas 60/30 plan to have 60 percent of youth graduating with a certification or undergraduate degree by 2030.

“They will, by definition, be proficient in meeting that 60/30 in graduating with their associate degree,” Craft said.

Craft said the district will also be continuously working to improve special education programs, such as those for students with dyslexia, and monitoring these services to ensure they are accommodating these students.

KISD will also use a Measure of Academic Progress three-part assessment to examine overall student growth throughout the school year and continue working to increase PSAT academy participation in hopes of raising overall ACT/SAT scores, Craft said.

He said the district will also be looking into instructional approach practices and work to strategically abandon practices that are ineffective.

“We will also continuously work on what we believe has the greatest student interest,” Craft said. “I think it’s going to be an exciting year.”